

fewer and somewhat coarser ribs, a much stronger axial lamella and not having the inner margin of the umbilical rimation definitely margined. All other characters approximate *C. josephinae*.

Great Ragged Island is one of the last of a chain of islands on the southeast end of the Great Bahama Bank, an area known as the Columbus Bank. From this island there is a long series of small Cays forming an arc which reaches nearly to Long Island.

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## THE STATUS OF POMATIA ASPERSA (MULLER) IN MAINE

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Almost a century ago the common European snail, *Helix aspersa* Müller, was admitted to the fauna of Maine, having been found at Portland, where apparently, it has not been seen since 1838. This fact has been nearly forgotten, yet the question of its occurrence here arises from time to time, and it may seem that a review of the citations of the snail in Maine may be helpful to future, and perhaps some present students.

Citations usually refer to "Binney." We find that Amos Binney<sup>1</sup> in a "Table of Foreign Species Recorded<sup>2</sup> by Authors as Observed in the United States" enters *Helix aspersa*, "Maine." And again, "it has been found on the coast of Maine."<sup>3</sup> Prof. E. S. Morse in his Pulmonifera of Maine,<sup>4</sup> remarks, "Dr. Binney mentions the occurrence of this species on the coast of Maine; otherwise than this, I have never heard of its presence in the State." It is evident that he refers to the second of the previous citations. W. G. Binney<sup>5</sup> and Thomas Bland mention the species as, "has been found" at Portland. This evidently is the citation which Mr. Johnson refers to, beyond. Again W. G.

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<sup>1</sup> 1851, A. Binney, Terrestrial Air Breathing Moll. U. S. I, 159.

<sup>2</sup> Italics mine.

<sup>3</sup> 1851, A. Binney, *Ibid.*, II, 117.

<sup>4</sup> 1864, Morse, Journ. Portland Soc. Nat. Hist. I, 9.

<sup>5</sup> 1869, Binney & Bland, Smiths. Misc. Coll. VIII (194), 183.



Binney,<sup>6</sup> refers to the creature as, "has been found" at Portland.

Mr. C. W. Johnson<sup>7</sup> in a "Note," in his New England Mollusca," says, "was recorded by Binney from Portland, Me., in 1869," and referring to an introduction at Wood's Hole, Massachusetts, he adds, "there is now no evidence of its occurrence at either locality. It should be pointed out that, beginning about 1843, there has been a long line of active conchological collectors in Portland, including Dr. J. W. Mighels, E. S. Morse, John M. Gould, Henry Willis, and Charles B. Fuller, who knew nothing of the occurrence of the snail in this city. It seems quite certain that all of the foregoing citations trace back to Amos Binney, 1851, who very evidently took his "record" from Jeffries Wyman,<sup>8</sup> 1839. Dr. Wyman who, in his capacity as Secretary of the Boston Society of Natural History, presented an abstract of the early meetings of that Society, reports a meeting on October 22, 1838, as follows: "Dr. A. A. Gould stated that he had recently received *a specimen* (italics mine) of *Helix aspersa* from Portland, Maine, from a gentleman who assured him that it was very common in that vicinity; and appeared in great numbers after the ground had been burned over." It is not to be supposed that Dr. Gould could have been mistaken in the identification of the single specimen which he received.

It seems apparent that the promise of a colony of *Pomatia aspersa* (Müller) existed at Portland in 1838, and about equally certain that it terminated completely and abruptly about the same time, due either to the burning of the land referred to, or to some other cause or causes.

It is a curious fact that this species was given no mention by Dr. Mighels<sup>9</sup> in his catalogue published but a few years later.

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<sup>6</sup> 1885, W. G. Binney, U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 28, 470.

<sup>7</sup> 1915, Johnson, Occ. Papers Boston Soc. Nat. Hist. VII (13), 194.

<sup>8</sup> 1839, Wyman, Am. Journ. Sci. XXXVII, 392.

<sup>9</sup> 1843, Mighels, Journ. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist. IV, 308-345.